



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT BRYMBO S&SC**

**16 May 2011**

- **Members in attendance:**

Mark Davies, Jim Tunley, Kevin Jones, Geraint Jones, Hannah Davies, Garry Fisher, Margaret Meadowcroft, Mike Povey, Paul Murphy, Sian Hughes, Chris Lucas Dave Thomas, Craig Stevens and John Hayes.

- **Apologies received from:**

Pam Hough, Mannon Godard and Rob Evans.

1. **Note of the AGM held on 10 May 2010**

These were confirmed as a correct record.

2. **Matters Arising**

- (1) Changing Rooms - the Ladies area had undergone full refurbishment, partly required following damage to the ceiling. Alterations to the Men's shower area were still subject to estimates being agreed.
- (2) North Wales Junior Squash Commission – Mark chairs this group which meets only when there are issues of local mediation required. It had not met for several months.

3. **Chairman's Report**

Mark presented his report saying it was hard to believe the Squash Club has been up and running for four years and good progress has continued in both the squash and other areas of the Club. The following elements were highlighted:

**Membership** has remained stable and new members are always made welcome. It is imperative, however, that we continue a steady increase to keep the Club on a sound financial footing. The **On-line Court Booking System** remains a resounding success and is a major plus point for prospective members. Our **Club Website** is managed by Jim and continues as a positive means of communication for the Club - Members are encouraged to forward any news items they may have.

There are a number of **maintenance / upgrading projects**, some of which are now completed while others we hope will start within the next month.

The **men's shower facilities**, which are shared with the Cricket Section, are soon to be refurbished – long overdue as they have been in situ for more than 35 years. Not to be outdone the **ladies changing rooms** have had a facelift - including a hairdryer which some of our younger members had requested.

It is likely a decision will have to be made on the front wall of **Court 2**; do we continue to patch it up or have the whole wall re-plastered by a specialist firm. This will be a costly exercise.

**Teams:** In the **North West Counties** our **Ladies Team** started life in Division One and found it very difficult with strength in depth a problem. Relegation was a threat from the start but, with some good fortune and excellent performances towards the end of the season, they managed to survive.

Our **Thursday Team** started life in the Third Division with a very successful first half – they were in a promotion place in December. However, injuries and some poor performances meant they slipped down the league finishing fifth overall which in fairness is a fine achievement at this level.

In the **North Wales Leagues**, it's been quite a successful season with all three Tuesday sides all performing well. The **First Team** won the 1<sup>st</sup> Division title in the first half and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the second half. Our **Second Team** just about managed to avoid relegation in the first half but then went on to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the second half and gained promotion to Division One next season !

Meanwhile the **Juniors Team** won promotion from Division Three in the first half but found it tough going in Division Two and were relegated on the last day of the season.

The **First Team** also reached the League Cup Final playing Chester Rugby Club at Chester. In a very entertaining close encounter we lost the match 3 – 2, Darren Lee losing an epic battle 3 – 2 in the last match.

**Junior Coaching:** The Club's Coaching programme has continued throughout the year, with a couple of the younger players showing good improvement and being selected for regional squads and inter county squads. A number of our older juniors have also played Inter counties and are members of the various excellent squads.

A continuing and big problem we face, however, is that our juniors simply do not play enough squash away from their coaching - once a week is not going to improve their game.

The **Wrexham Schools Squash Programme** continues with support from Squash Wales and the Wrexham Council' Sports Development Team. Following on from last year we have increased the number of schools visits to introduce the Mini Squash Experience. Co-ordinated by Jim Tunley, this has been achieved with the help from five Glyndwr University students and the support of several local schools. Since January this year, nearly 300 young people have been given the opportunity to develop basic racket skills. Four of the students have now gained their UKCC Level One Coaching Certificate and they continue to provide the Club with much needed voluntary hours.

The **Wrexham Brymbo Squash Club Individual Championships** - our inaugural event was held earlier in the year with both men and women playing. Congratulations to **Darren Lee** who beat Neil Rawlins 3 – 2 in an excellent match. It is hoped we may arrange a presentation evening later in the year to present Darren with his well deserved trophy.

This year we again have a special mention to **Hannah Davies** – she has had another super year as she continues to develop as a player. Hannah has represented Wales both at Junior level and Senior level - recently making her debut to help the Welsh Team at the European Championships gain promotion to the top division for the first time in the history of Welsh Squash. With her friends Tesni Evans (Saints) and Fiona Murphy (South Wales), the three girls were part of the youngest side ever to compete in the Championships. Fingers are crossed that all three will be going to Harvard University in July this year, to compete in the World Individual & Team Championships. For all our Club juniors these are the goals that are achievable.

Mark concluded his report by thanking members of the Committee for their on-going support during the past year and to all coaches for their work in helping achieve an excellent reputation for the Club within the squash fraternity.

#### 4. Finance Report

Kevin Jones presented the Treasurer's report advising the meeting that at 30 April 2011 the Club's balance stood at £1,726.25. This excluded the funds retained on Deposit but included funds that were ring-fenced to either specific junior or coaching expenditure.

Members received an audited set of accounts and the Treasurer provided a summary of the various elements. Balances were described as healthy, though there was need to maintain a steady base level given the likely future maintenance and to provide the blocks for potential future developments and other commitments envisaged.

The meeting received a recommendation from the Club's Committee to the effect that Member Subscriptions for 2011-2012 be retained at their current levels for the three categories – Senior, Junior and Family. The Committee also recommended that the court light fees should be held at current levels i.e. £3.00 per 45 minute session.

#### It was agreed:

- (1) With effect from 1 June 2011, subscriptions for the ensuing year will be:  
Senior - £60;  
Junior (in full time education) - £30 or £50 for 2 children from same family;  
Family (2 adults and children) - £90.

*[Subscriptions are due for payment by no later than 30 June 2011]*

- (2) The cost to purchase a court light card will be maintained at £3.00 for a 45 minute session.

#### 5. Club Constitution

The Secretary put forward three proposals to amend the Constitution and bring it into line with the fact (1) we have never appointed a Vice Chairman and (2) our AGM is held in May not September. **These were approved.**

#### 6. Election of Officers of the Club for 2011-2012

The following were elected:

Chairman	-	Mark Davies
Secretary	-	Jim Tunley
Treasurer	-	Kevin Jones
Assistant Treasurer	-	Mannon Goddard
Team Reps	-	Sian Hughes and Rob Evans
Schools Liaison	-	Margaret Meadowcroft
Ordinary Members	-	Craig Stevens and Geraint Jones.

*N.B. Following discussion it was agreed that the role of Schools Liaison be part of the Secretary's function and that Maintenance was a matter for all Committee members.*

#### 7. Consideration of Honorary Membership

In acknowledging the work of our Assistant Treasurer, it was agreed **Mannon Goddard** be made an Honorary Member for the ensuing year.

## 8. Open Forum

- (1) **Teams Meeting** – it was agreed to call a meeting for all who may have an interest in playing in the Teams next season. It was agreed this should take place on **Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June** in the Sports Club **at 7.30 pm**.
- (2) **Internal Leagues** – from June, it was agreed we revert to five players per division. Also, by way of an experiment and freshen things up, that for one month we trail scoring by American points, with two clear points at 10 each.
- (3) **Junior Tournament / Presentation Evening** – it was agreed to hold a juniors competition before the summer holidays (Margaret and Darron to organise) and a Presentation Evening later in the year (when Sports Club is available).
- (4) **Hannah Davies** – on behalf of Jim Tunley and Kevin Jones, the following proposal was made: *“To acknowledge the on-going development and unique achievements by Hannah Davies, this AGM agrees to provide a direct and tangible expression of support from the Club. Officers of the Club are requested to determine an amount from funding available through the accounts ring-fenced to support the Club’s Junior Squash activities.”* **This was agreed.**
- (5) **Court Lights** – the meeting discussed the need for scaffold and whether to purchase or hire. The matter was left without conclusion for the time being.
- (6) **Storage space** – it is hoped to tidy up the reception area of the Club by enclosing the space under the stairs and possibly removing the cabinets.
- (7) **Team Photos** – while the Club’s website currently includes a record of teams since 2007, the idea of putting up photos in the Club was suggested.
- (8) **Pre Season fitness / Club Night** – it was agreed this is something that members may support and that interest be gauged via the website. The suggestion is for a Sunday evening (6.00 till 8.00) with a format something like ten minutes on and ten minutes off court.
- (9) **Referee / Markers Course** - a number of team players have expressed an interest in taking this course. It was agreed to contact Squash Wales (Matthew O'Connor) to see if this may be possible at the Club prior to next season.